The several

SPEECHES

OF

Sr. EDWARD TURNER Kt.

Speaker of the honourable House of Commons, to the KING'S most excellent Majesty, delivered on Fryday the tenth day of May, 1661.

LONDON,
Printed for *John Williams*, at the sign of the *Crown* in S. *Paul's* Churchyard. 1661.

It pleaſe your moſt extellent Majeſty.

THE Knights, Citizens, & Burgeſſes of the Commons Houſe of Parliament being there aſſembled by virtue of your Majeſties moſt gracious Writ, have bin pleaſed (I dare not ſay to chooſe, but) to name me their Speaker.

It is an undoubted priviledge of every Member in that Houſe, to be heard ſpeak, much more when he ſpeaks for, or againſt himſelf. But Sir, whether more out of favour to me, or injury to themſelves, I cannot tell, they were not pleaſed to hear, at leaſt they would not accept my juſt Apology and Excuſe from this Service.

Therefore from this their Judgement, if I muſt call it ſo, I doe moſt humbly appeal to your Soveraign Juſtice, beſeeching your Majeſty for the errours that are too viſible & apparent in their Proceedings, that you will review and reverſe the ſame.

My inexperience in the Customes and Orders of the *House*, my inability to collect their sence and state the Questions rising upon long and arduous Debates, do justly render me unfit, and therefore unworthy of this weighty imployment.

Your Majesty well knowes, when a Ship puts forth to Sea she should be provided with Mariners of all sorts; in case a Storm doth arise, some must trimme and lore the sails, some must watch aloft the Decks, some must work at the *Pump*, but he had need be a very good Sea-man that is the Pilot. Sir, I hope I may be usefull to this your Soveraign Vessel in some of these inferior places, but I dare not undertake to be their Steersman.

I do most humbly therefore beseech your *Majesty*, that you will not take us at our first word, our second thoughts are best, pray therefore be pleased to command the Members of the House of Commons to return into their *House*, to recollect themselves, & to present your Majesty with a better choice. FINIS.

THE SECOND

SPEECH,

AFTER THE LORD

CHANCELLOR

Had declar'd the KING's Approbation of the Choice of the House of COMMONS.

HE *that knows his Masters Will, and doth it not, is worthy to be beaten with many stripes*: I shall therefore humbly and cheerfully, to the best of my poor skill and knowledge, apply my self to the performance of my Duty; not doubting therein to obtain Your Majesties Gracious Pardon for all involuntary Transgressions; for 'tis a Rule in Law, and in Conscience too: *Actus non facit reum, nisi mens sit rea.*

And since I have found this Favour in the sight of my Lord the King, pray let me beg Your Majesties patience for a while, to make a stand, and from this place to look about me: Sir, a weak head is soon giddy, but the strongest brain may here be turn'd; the Presence of this Glory, and the Glory of this Presence, do transport me: whilst I contemplate the incomparable beauty of this

Body Politick, and the goodly Order of this High Court of Parliament, where at once I behold all the glory of this Nation, I am almoſt in the condition of St. *Paul*, when he was taken up into the third Heavens, all he could ſay upon his return, was, *He ſaw things unutterable*.

God, that made all things for the uſe of Man, and made him Governor over all his Works, thought it not fit to leave him to himſelf; nor to live without a Law and Government. The Forms and Species of Governments are various, *Monarchicall*, *Ariſtocraticall*, and *Democraticall*; but the firſt is certainly the beſt, as being neareſt to Divinity it ſelf. *Ariſtocracy* is ſubject to degenerate and run into Faction; but *Democracy* naturally runs into Confuſion: then every man becomes a Tyrant over his Neighbor, *Homo Homini Lupus*: *Homo Homini Dæmon*.

This famous Iſland, Hiſtorians tell us, was firſt Inhabited by the *Brittains*, then by the *Romans*, then by the *Saxons*, then by the *Danes*, then by the *Normans*; and during all theſe Succeſſions of Ages, and variety of Changes, though there was ſometimes *Diviſum Imperium*, yet every Diviſion was happy under a Monarchical Government.

Since

Since the Entrance of the *Norman* Race 25 Kings & Queens famous in their generations, from whom Your ſacred Majeſty is lineally deſcended, have ſwayed the Royal Scepter of this Nation.

The *Children of Iſrael*, when they were in the Wilderneſs, though they were fed with Gods own hand, and *ate the food of Angels*, yet they ſurfeited, and murmured, and rebelled againſt *Moſes*.

The ſame unthankfull ſpirit dwelt in this Nation for divers years laſt paſt; the men of that Age were weary of the Government, though it was refined to the wonder and envy of all other Nations: they quarrelled with our *Moſes*, becauſe he was *the Lords Anointed*; *Nolumus hunc regnare*, was their firſt quarrel; but levelling Parity and Confuſion followed, then tyranny & uſurpation was the Concluſion.

We read of the Emperor *Adrian*, when he lay a dying, he complained that many Phyſitians had deſtroyed him; meaning, that their contrary Conceits and different Directions for his Recovery, had haſtened his Death.

So it was with us, we were ſick of *Reformation*; our *Reformers* were of all Ages, Sexes, and Degrees, of all Profeſſions and Trades: *The very Cobler went beyond his Laſt*: Theſe new *States-men* took upon them to Regulate and Govern our Governours: This was the Sickneſſe and Plague of the Nation: Their new Laws were all written in bloudy Letters, the cruelty of their Tribunals made

the

the *Judgement Seat* little differ from a *Slaughter house*: The Rich man was made an Offendor for a word, Poor men were sold for Slaves, as the *Turks* sell Heads, twenty for an *Asper*: Yet for all this Villany there was at length found a *Protector*.

No amendment at length would serve these *Reformers* turns; no Concessions, though the most Gracious that could be imagined, would satisfie these Usurpers; but *Root and Branch*, all must go; our late Sovereign Lord, of blessed memory, must be offered up a Sacrifice to their Lusts; Your sacred Person (Great Sir) proscribed, and all the Royal Family exiled: Monarchy it self was voted burthensome; & therefore they must try a Commonwealth, and the better to digest it, the People were intoxicated with a belief that they should all like themselves be Princes in their turns.

Amongst the *Persians*, after the death of their Governor, there was used to be ἀνομία πέντε ἡμερῶν· a five dayes Lawlessnesse, in which time every man might do what he listed: during those five dayes there was such killing and robbing, and destroying one another, that before they were ended, the People longed again for their old Government.

After the death of Your Majesties most Royal Father, here was the like Licentiousnes; but alas, it continued more than twice five yeares: Liberty they called it, but it was *Libertas quidlibet audendi.* Your Loyal Subjects were a Prey to Wolves and Tygres, and to the most cruel of all Beasts, unreasonable men: every man did what seemed good in his own eyes, for in those daies there was no King in our *Israel.*

But

But as the former Spirit of Reformation at firſt brought us into this miſery; ſo the ſpirit of giddineſs which God ſent amongſt our Reformers, at length cured us. The brazen Serpent was the beſt cure for thoſe that were bitten by the fiery Serpent: the diviſions and ſubdiviſions of thoſe that exerciſed dominion over us, weakened their own power, and ſtirred up the hearts, and ſtrengthned the hands of your loyal Subjects, to reſtore our ancient Government, and to bring your Sacred Majeſty back to your Royal Throne in peace, as to the joy of all our hearts we ſee it is this day.

This was the work of God alone, and it is admirable in our eyes. And as we have cauſe at all times to bleſs God that he hath thus brought your Majeſty to your People; ſo we have juſt cauſe at this time to return our hearty thanks unto your Majeſty, that you have thus brought your People to your Self.

The Sun exhales the vapours from the earth, and then ſends them down again in ſhowres of plenty: So we to our great joy, do find that our obedience and affection to your Majeſty are returned upon our heads in plenty, peace and protection.

The laſt meeting here in Parliament was happy in healing the bleeding wounds of this Nation; they were bleſſed alſo, even for their Works ſake, your ſacred Majeſty did bleſs them,

and therefore they shall be blessed to all posterity.

But Sir we hope you have a blessing left for us too: That was your Parliament by Adoption, but this is yours by Birth-right; this Parliament is Free-born: I hope this honour will beget in us an Emulation to exceed the actions of our Predecessors, and not only to meet your Majesty as our Soveraign, with the duty of Subjects, but with the love of Sons to a most indulgent Father.

Next to the glory of your Majesties Royal Throne, I cannot but observe the brightness of this ___ second orb, this Firmament is richly deckt with Stars of several magnitudes, each star appears like the morning-star, and yet each star differs from another in glory.

You cannot want Commanders, either by Sea or Land, to manage your designs, whilest all these Sons of *Mars* stand candidate to serve you in the wars.

You cannot want Counsellors to advise you in the great affairs of the Nation, whilest all these Senators, each fit to be a Consul, contend who shall most ease you in the thorny cares of the Government.

Amidst these Noble English Barons, and at your Majesties feet are placed the Reverend Judges of the Land, the Sages of the Law, Men so learned and expert in the Customs, and Statutes of this land, that if *Wat Tyler*, or *Jack Cade*,

or

or the new Phanaticks of this latter age had burned our books, they were able to restore our laws in purity and perfection.

And next to these, though in a lower Orbe, appear the worthy Knights, the prudent Citizens and Burgesses of the House of Commons, being the third estate of Parliament.

When the fame of *Salomons* wisdom had filled the neighbour Nations, the Queen of *Sheba* could not contain her self at home, but with many *Camels* laded with Spices, with Gold and pretious stones in abundance, she comes to *Salomon* to commune with him of all that was in her heart. Great Sr. whilest this your native Countrey was unworthy of you, forreign Nations were made happy in the knowledge of your Person, your piety and your wisdome: And now the Lord our God hath brought you home, and set you on your Throne, your Subjects long to see you.

What striving and rejoycing was there at your first landing, to see our rising Sun?

What striving was there at your Coronation to see the Imperial Crown set upon your Royall head?

What striving hath here lately been, in all the Counties, Cities and Burroughs of this Nation, who should be sent up to hear your wisdom, and confer with you in Parliament?

Royall Sr, these chosen worthy Messengers are not come empty handed, they are laden, they are sent up to you, heavy laden, from their several Counties, Cities and Burroughs. *If*